

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (331) of these admissions reside in the Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District. 8% (28) of admissions from the Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 70% were male and 30% were female.
- 52% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 94% were white non-Latino, 1% were black non-Latino, 2% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 68% were never married, 12% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 29% had less than high school education, 55% completed high school, and 16% had more than high school education.
- 42% were employed.
- 5% were homeless.
- 29% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	42%	40%	11%	2%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Thirty-sixth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	274	246	64	81	49	52	40
FY '96	244	208	74	55	52	50	33
FY '97	296	250	87	68	39	72	59
FY '98	315	270	93	75	51	85	58
FY '99	344	281	113	80	45	105	83
FY '00	360	290	118	92	39	144	127
FY '01	348	256	99	79	31	125	101
FY '02	425	330	108	95	27	193	138
FY '03	331	248	125	92	39	147	115